FREE PREVIEW

STRANGER THINGS™

Jody Houser
Stefano Martino
Keith Champagne
Lauren Affe
Nate Piekos

STRANGER THINGS

CHAPTER ONE

When Will Byers finds himself in the Upside Down, an impossible dark parody of his own world, he's understandably frightened. But that's nothing compared to the fear that takes hold when he realizes what's in that world with him!

Written by JODY HOUSER
Pencils by STEFANO MARTINO
Inks by KEITH CHAMPAGNE
Colors by LAUREN AFFE
Letters by NATE PIEKOS OF BLAMBOT®
Cover by ALEKSI BRICLOT

Publisher MIKE RICHARDSON

Editor SPENCER CUSHING **Assistant Editor KEVIN BURKHALTER**

Designer PATRICK SATTERFIELD **Digital Art Technician SAMANTHA HUMMER**

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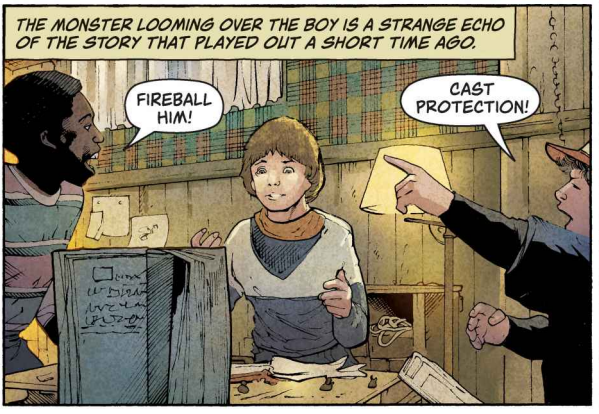
MINUTES AGO, WILL BYERS WAS PLAYING A GAME WITH HIS FRIENDS.
SLAM
THEY WERE A PARTY OF ADVENTURERS, TRAVELING THE LAND IN SEARCH OF GLORY AND TREASURE.
FACING DOWN THE MOST DEADLY OF MONSTERS LURKING IN THE DARK.
BUT NOW, WILL BYERS IS ALONE.
AND SUDDENLY, SOMEHOW... THE MONSTERS ARE REAL.

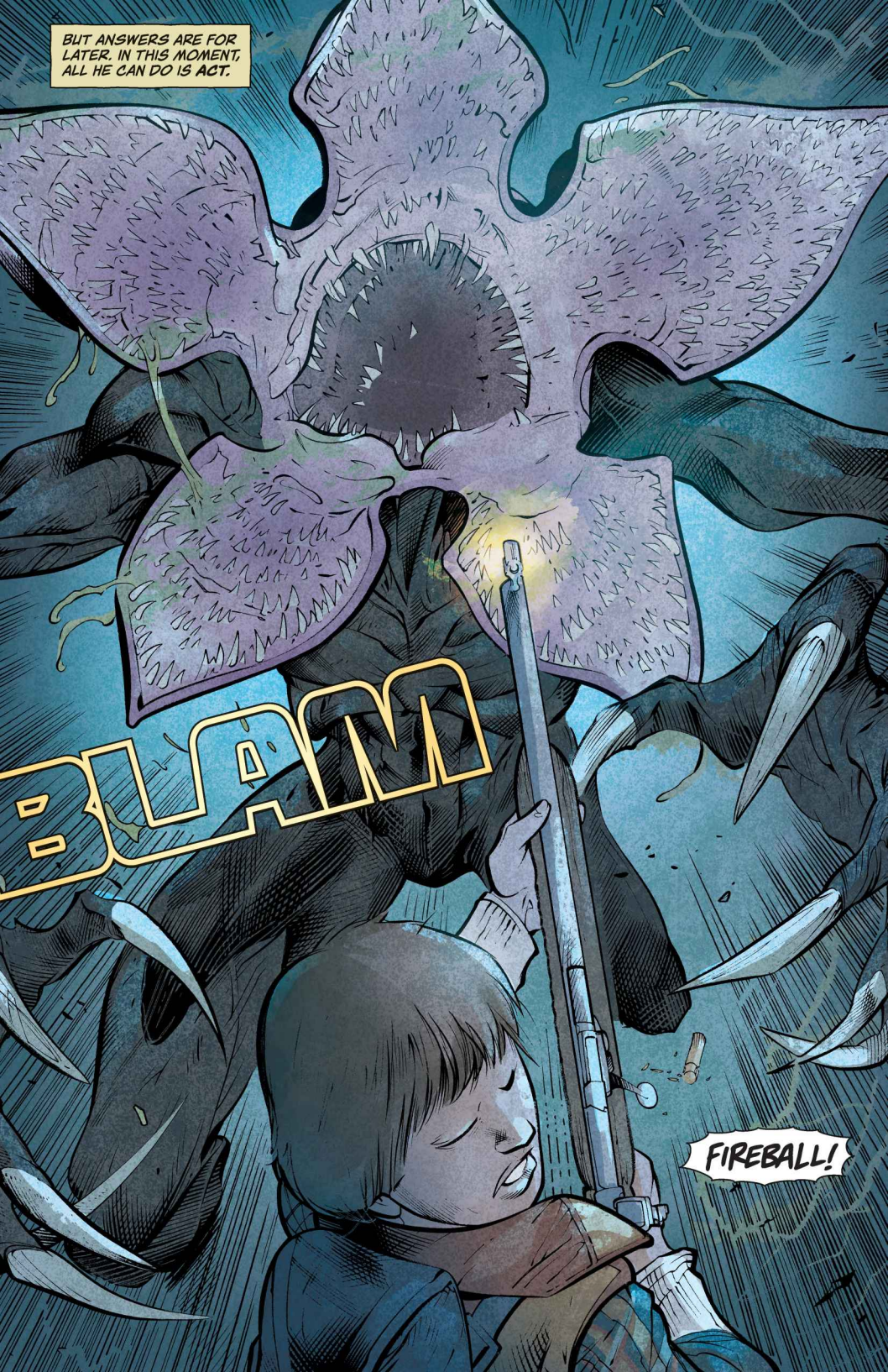
IN THE WORLD OF THE GAME, WILL THE WISE CALLED UPON THE ARCANE ARTS IN HIS BATTLE AGAINST EVIL.
IT WASN'T ENOUGH TO SAVE HIM.
WHERE IS IT? WHAT IS IT?
SKRRRRR
SO INTENT ON THE FEARSOME MONSTER AT HIS HEELS, WILL BYERS NEVER REALIZED...
...TEETH AND CLAWS WEREN'T THE ONLY DANGER THAT HE FACED.

CAST A PROTECTION SPELL!


THE MONSTER LOOMING OVER THE BOY IS A STRANGE ECHO OF THE STORY THAT PLAYED OUT A SHORT TIME AGO.
FIREBALL HIM!
CAST PROTECTION!

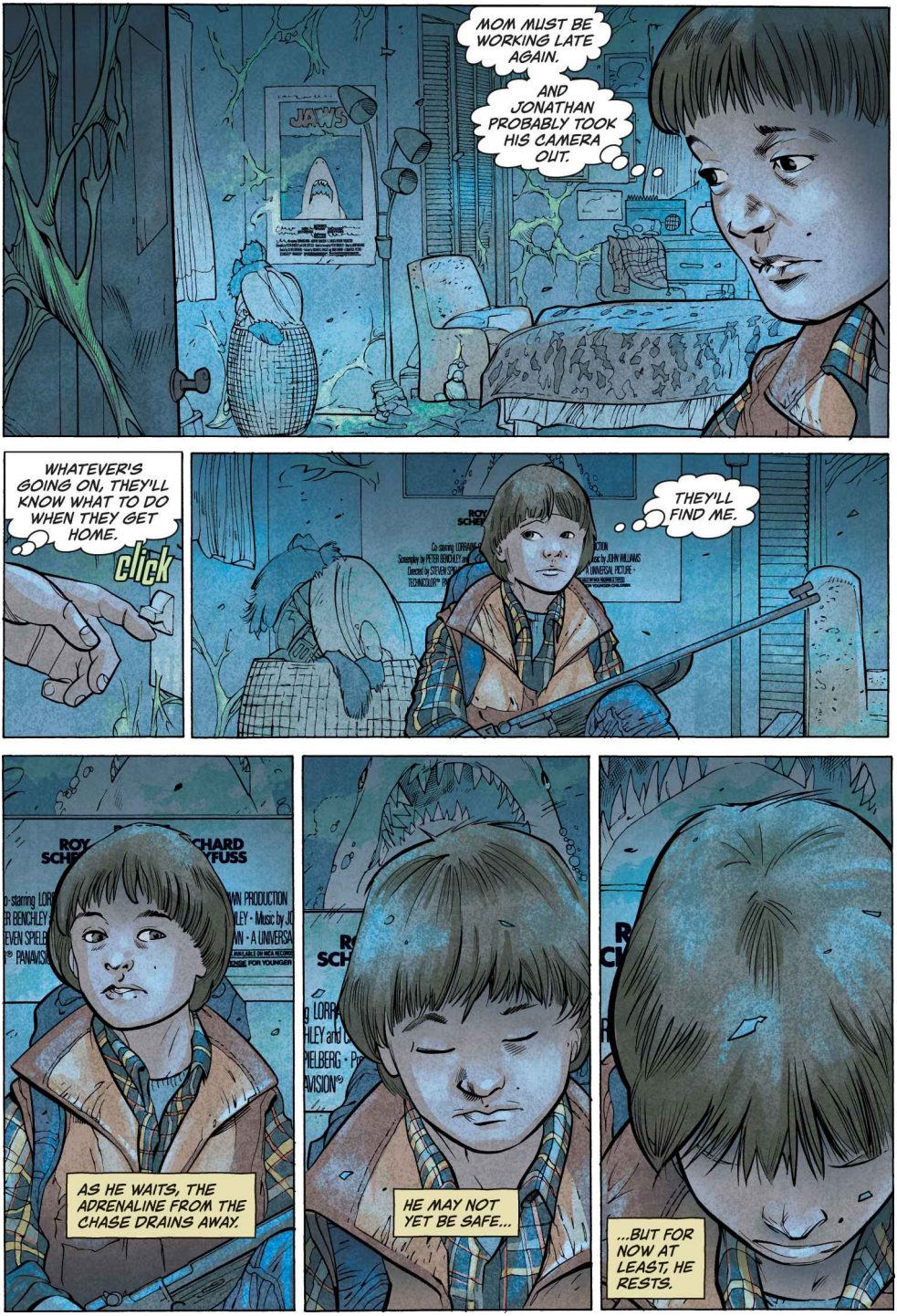
IN THE REAL WORLD, WILL DOESN'T HAVE A CHOICE OF SPELLS.
FIREBALL!

THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THIS IS THE REAL WORLD OR NOT REMAINS.
PROTECTION!


BUT ANSWERS ARE FOR LATER. IN THIS MOMENT, ALL HE CAN DO IS ACT.
BLAM
FIREBALL!

IT'S GONE!
BUT DID I ACTUALLY HURT IT? OR JUST SCARE IT OFF?
I THINK I CAN STILL SMELL IT. LIKE SOMETHING ROTTEN...
WHEREVER IT WENT, I DON'T THINK THE SHED IS SAFE.

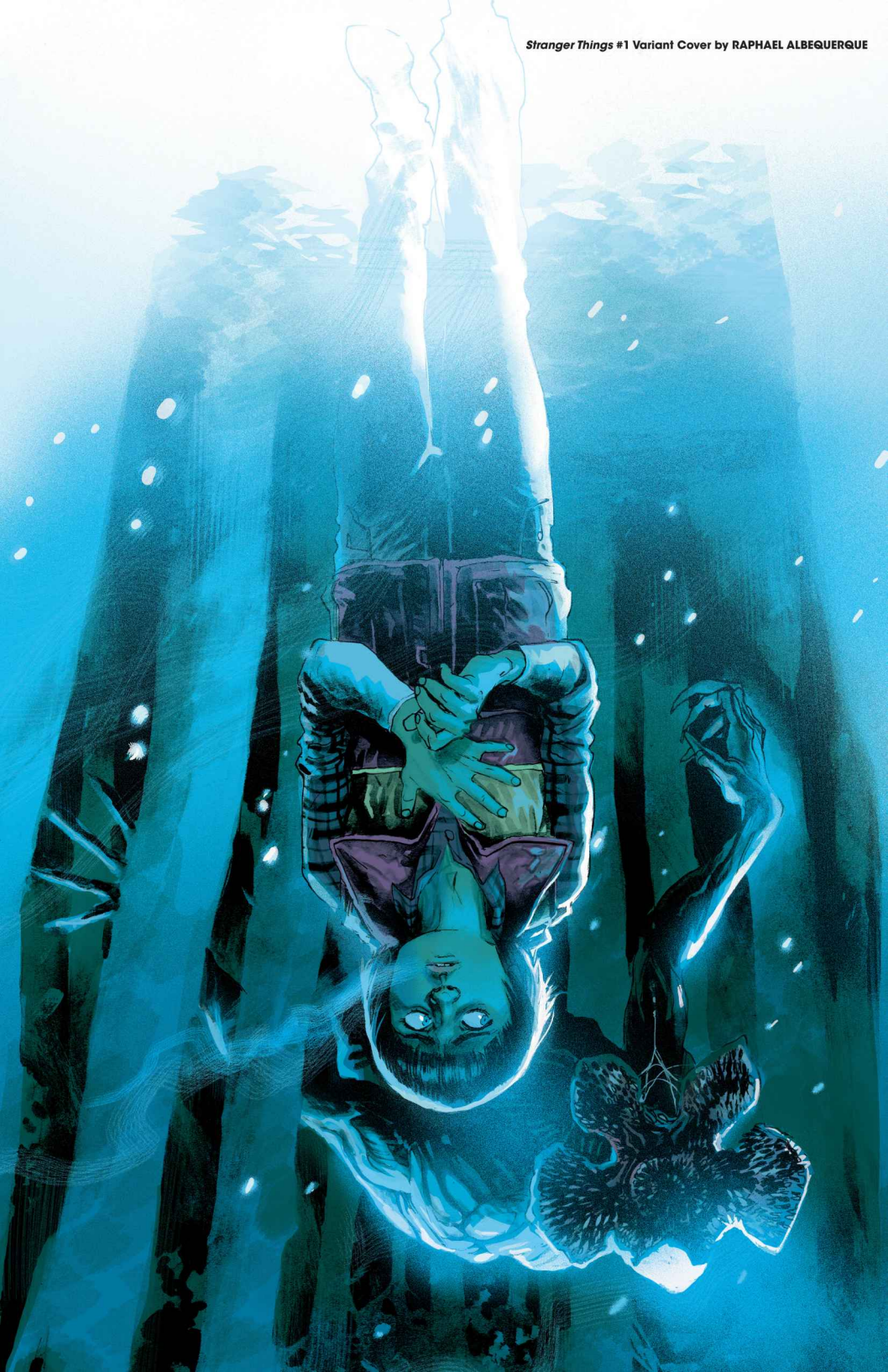
MADE IT!
LIGHTS AREN'T WORKING?
click
THAT FLASH BEFORE...DID A CIRCUIT BLOW?
MOM? JONATHAN?


MOM MUST BE WORKING LATE AGAIN.
AND JONATHAN PROBABLY TOOK HIS CAMERA OUT.
JAWS
WHATEVER'S GOING ON, THEY'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN THEY GET HOME.
click
THEY'LL FIND ME.
AS HE WAITS, THE ADRENALINE FROM THE CHASE DRAINS AWAY.
HE MAY NOT YET BE SAFE...
...BUT FOR NOW AT LEAST, HE RESTS.

JESUS.
MAN, THE DICE HATE YOU.
THIS SUCKS. OUR MAGIC-USER IS SO WEAK!
WE'RE GONNA DIE. WE'RE GONNA DIE SO FAST.
MAYBE HE SHOULD HAVE PICKED A DIFFERENT CLASS...
ANY-THING IN THE RULES ABOUT REROLLING?
NO. FATE HAS ALREADY SPOKEN. THE PARTY HAS BEEN GATHERED.
NO REROLLS.

YOU TWO ACT LIKE THE DICE GAVE YOU SO MUCH MORE POWER THAN HIM.
YOU'RE BOTH STILL LEVEL ONE. EASY PREY.
AND IF SOMETHING EATS YOU, DON'T BLAME WILL THE WISE.
IT ISN'T A CONTEST TO SEE WHICH OF YOU IS THE STRONGEST OR CAN GET THE MOST KILLS.
YOU LIVE AS A PARTY OR YOU DIE ALONE.

"THE ONLY WAY YOU SURVIVE AND LEVEL UP IS TOGETHER."
AHH!
FELL ASLEEP...BUT IT'S STILL DARK OUT?
AND IT STILL SMELLS TERRIBLE.
FOR THE FIRST TIME, WILL REALLY SEES THROUGH THE STRANGENESS THAT SURROUNDS HIM.
IT'S NOT THAT HIS HOME HAS BEEN INFECTED BY SOMETHING.
HELLO? ANYBODY HERE?
IT'S THAT HE WAS NEVER ACTUALLY IN HIS HOME AT ALL.
:KAFF:



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#1
STRANGER THINGS
By Jody Houser
Illustrated by Stefano Martino, Keith Champagne, & Lauren Affe
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